Listing of the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.   (previously presented) A method for managing access to a restricted transmitted event, said method comprising:

receiving encrypted access information associated with said transmitted event from a particular one of a plurality of service providers, said access information being encrypted using a shared public key that is shared among the plurality of service providers, said access information comprising data corresponding to the cost of said transmitted event;

decrypting said access information in a conditional access module using a private key associated with the shared public key;

verifying, in said conditional access module, that the cost of said transmitted event is less than a pre-stored cash reserve;

receiving said transmitted event from said service provider, said transmitted event being scrambled; and

descrambling said transmitted event in said conditional access module.

2.   (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein said access information further comprises an event descrambling key and purchase information, said purchase information comprising channel identification data, event identity data, date and time stamp data, and billing data.

3.   (Original) The method of Claim 2 further comprising the step of transferring data associated with said purchased transmitted event to said service provider to update a user's account information.

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4.   (previously presented) The method of Claim 3, wherein said conditional access module comprises a smart card.

5.   (Cancelled)

6.   (previously presented) The method of Claim 4 wherein said smart card comprises a card body with a plurality of terminals arranged on a surface of said card body in accordance with one of ISO 7816 and PCMCIA card standards.

7.   (previously presented) A method for managing access to a restricted transmitted event, said method comprising:

receiving encrypted access information associated with said transmitted event from a particular one of a plurality of service providers, the encrypted access information from each of said plurality of service providers being encrypted with a respective public key associated with each of said plurality of service providers, said received access information comprising data corresponding to the cost of said transmitted event;

selecting from a plurality of private keys stored in a conditional access module a private key associated with a public key of the particular service provider, and decrypting said received access information in a conditional access module using the selected private key;

verifying, in said conditional access module, that the cost of said transmitted event is less than a pre-stored cash reserve;

receiving said transmitted event from said service provider, said transmitted event being scrambled; and

descrambling said transmitted event in said conditional access module.

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8.   (previously presented) The method of Claim 7, wherein said access information further comprises an event descrambling key and purchase information, said purchase information comprising channel identification data, event identity data, date and time stamp data, and billing data.

9.   (previously presented) The method of Claim 8, further comprising the step of transferring data associated with said purchased transmitted event to said service provider to update a user's account information.

10.   (previously presented) The method of Claim 9, wherein said conditional access module comprises a smart card.

11.   (previously presented) The method of Claim 10, wherein said smart card comprises a card body with a plurality of terminals arranged on a surface of said card body in accordance with one of ISO 7816 and PCMCIA card standards.

12.   (previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein said transmitted event comprises one of audio/video program data, textual data, computer software, and HTML data.

13.   (previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein said plurality of service providers comprises one of terrestrial television network, cable network, digital satellite network, electronic program guide provider, and internet service provider.

14.   (previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein said transmitted event comprises a package of programs.

15.   (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said transmitted event comprises one of audio/video program data, textual data, computer software, and HTML data.

16.   (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said plurality of service providers comprises one of terrestrial television network, cable network, digital satellite network, electronic program guide provider, and internet service provider.

17.   (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said transmitted event comprises a package of programs.